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eligible to and may in fact participate, for instance Sheriff's meeting for collecting funds and assistance for flood relief, etc. Now it has become unfortunately by convention an adjunct of the Legislative Assembly. It is practically a part of the Legislative Assembly with its overflow of ground accommodation. I do not think that I will be able to stop this in view of the vicinity of the Hall although it is different from the Assembly buildings. Therefore we have to use it for the parties in the Legislature and for necessary purposes in connexion with Legislative work."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" May I know, Sir, why it is called Rajaji Hall '? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am glad, Sir, the question is put. I am not aware of the reason at all." (Laughter.)

Extent of waste lands in the occupation of agricultural labourers.

* 52 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many pattas for Government assessed or unassessed waste lands have been issued to the agricultural labourers or landless poor since 1948 till now ; and

(b) the total extent of such waste lands in the occupation of agricultural labourers or landless poor in the State and also the total number of such persons?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (a) & (b) The information is not available here and the obtaining of information by special references to each and every district for answering this most comprehensive question would involve great time and labour wholly out of proportion to the value of the information so obtained."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Are the Government aware, Sir. that a good number, as a matter of fact, thousands of agricultural labourers, both Harijans and others, are involved in this question and they are being evicted even though they have been occupying it for the last 24 years? Will the Government take this into consideration and issue a special Ordinance or pass an Act so that they may not be evicted from their lands? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government are not aware of the fact that the hon. Member just mentioned but I will go into the question."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Will the collection of the statistics help the Government to know the number of landless labourers as against landed labourers? "

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" It may help, Sir."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" Sir, is there any plan for assignment of lands and the issue of pattas to the landless poor and the scheduled classes who have been cultivating the lands for 20 years and more? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The plan has not yet fructified."

SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the policy of the Government that waste lands shall be assigned to landless poor or colonization co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, if there are any lands available for the Government, assignment to landless labourers is the first charge on them."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" With reference to the answer given by the Hon. Minister that no useful purpose will be served in view of the long time that will be taken to collect the information required, may I ask Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the centre of gravity of importance has shifted to the agricultural side and whether the Government will not undertake to collect the statistics so as to give an overall picture of the position of landless labourers in this State? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, I sympathize with the fact but as the answer itself indicated, it involves a very comprehensive enquiry and the result will not be commensurate with the trouble taken."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" In view of the fact that the Government in the past have declared that it is their policy to see that waste lands are assigned to landless labourers in preference to others, do not the Government think it necessary to collect this statistics in order to see that their own policy is being actually implemented by their own officers? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, the hon. Member's suggestion will be duly considered."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Sir, will the ex-tappers who were thrown out of their profession on account of the introduction of prohibition, get priority in the matter of assignment of these lands to the landless poor? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I think, Sir, if the ex-tappers are landless, they will also come under the category of landless people."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Sir, will they have any priority because they were thrown out of their profession? "

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, each question will be considered on its merits."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know, Sir, whether in view of the fact that though the agricultural labourers have been on their lands for so many years they are not given pattas the Government will consider the question of giving them pattas immediately? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, I do not know how the question of issue of patta arises at all. But the Government will consider the other thing."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is not aware that the Board of Revenue will have annual accounts of land occupied unauthorizedly? At a moment's notice the Board of Revenue can give the information if the Hon. Minister wants it."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Board of Revenue has information about so many other things but it has no definite information about the landless poor. This is a later phenomenon that has arisen in politics now."

SRI M. HANUMANTHA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, the number of land disputes that arose since the Government assigned to political sufferers lands that had been previously occupied by the agricultural labourers? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Will the pattas be given free of charge because the landless poor will necessarily be poor? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I do not think there is any charge for the issue of pattas unless it is by way of an inducement to karnams and village munsifs." (Laughter.)

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, I would like to know whether Government are aware that numerous complaints are made to the District Collectors about delay in the disposal of applications, because they are receiving thousands of applications regarding these lands and whether Government are going to see that the applications are considered and disposed of as early as possible, so that greater trouble is not given to Harijans and agricultural labourers."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The pending applications will be duly considered and the Government will pay their earnest attention to them."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether non-Harijan labourers are given lands for house-sites? "

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Mr. SPEAKER :—" The present question does not relate to house-sites. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" The Hon. Minister said that there are no fees for the issue of a patta unless it be inducement that is given to the karnams and village munsifs. Do the Government recognize the giving of these inducements officially?" (Laughter.)

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government do not recognize it at all either officially or unofficially." (Laughter.)

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I pass on to question No. 53."

Sri G. RAMA RAO :—" అయ్యా, ప్రశ్న వేసినది మేము. (అంటే వెనుక బెంచీలపై కూర్చొనినవారము.) సప్లిమెంటరీ ప్రశ్నలు వేసినవారు ముందుకూర్చున్న మెంబర్లు మేము ఎప్పుడు నిలుచున్నా, మీరు మమ్ము చూడలేదు. నాకు ఇంగ్లీషు తెలియదు. నా ప్రశ్నకు ఏమి సమాధానం వచ్చిందో నాకు తెలియదు." 8-45 a.m.

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" He says he does not understand English."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member wants any information, let him come and meet me in my chamber."

An hon. MEMBER :—" I want to know whether the word menial in question No. 53 is parliamentary."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" It is parliamentary."

Revision of pay of public health menials of Fort Cochin Municipality.

* 53 Q.—Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any letter or telegram from municipal authorities of Fort Cochin Municipality in the month of September of 1951 stating that the monthly payment to public health menials of Fort Cochin Municipality be increased to a minimum of Rs. 45 (basic salary and dearness allowance included) and if so, what was the reply given by Government;

(b) whether it was stated in the letter of the Municipal Commissioner that the monthly payments of the menials do not suffice to purchase the rationed articles due to them; and

(c) whether the Fort Cochin Municipality had proposed to supply rice to the menials at subsidized rates and what was the Government's reply?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) A telegram and letter, both, were received in August 1951. The Commissioner, Fort Cochin Municipality, was informed that the question